

DSE WORD PROCESSOR PATCH

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Introduction

This program is an enhanced version of the original DSE word processor. It contains various improvements on the original WP, the most important being disk operation and the use of printer attributes such as underlined and bold print.

The program also automatically adjusts to use however much memory is available, rather than assuming a VZ200+16K configuration. The program still needs a minimum of 24K to run, though.

Because the DSE word processor is protected by copyright, this program must be sold as a patch. A separate program is supplied which loads the original program from tape, makes the necessary patches automatically, then saves the program on disk.

Setting up the program

Before using this program, you must run the patcher program to set up a working copy. This is done by typing:

BRUN "PATCHER"

The patcher program, once loaded, will prompt you to insert the WP tape, and display the "WAITING" message. Once it has finished loading the tape program, it will patch it then start saving it on the disk. (Make sure the program disk is still in the drive, and the write-protect notch on the side of the disk is not covered).

After this is finished, the program will start running. In future, all you need to do to run the program is type:

BRUN "WP"

(If you have the Laserlink DOS, you may want to EXE the program instead.)

The word processor is set up to use Epson/IBM printer codes, so if your printer is not Epson-compatible you will probably also want to set up the printer control codes - see Printer control codes.

Left Word/Right Word

This program provides two extra editing commands: Left word and Right word, typed CTRL-J and CTRL-K respectively.

Tape Menu

When you ran the program you would have noticed some changes in the opening menu - the tape commands have been replaced by two new options, Tape Menu and Disk Menu.

The tape menu is mainly provided for compatibility with existing files. When you hit "T", you will be presented with a menu containing the three original options, Save File, Load File, and Verify File. These work exactly as before. To exit the tape menu, type <RETURN>.

Control codes continue to apply until they are turned off, not necessarily on the same line as when they were turned on - paragraphs or blocks of text can be marked using a single pair of control codes.

You may have noticed an extra question at the top of the Print Text screen - **EDIT CONTROL CODES (Y/N)**. Before control codes can be printed, the printer codes (strings of characters which do not represent text, but tell the printer to do something) for each attribute must be defined - different printers can have different codes. The default is the Epson/IBM set - if your printer is Epson or IBM compatible, then hit "N", and you can start printing straight away.

If not, you will have to look up the codes in the printer manual. Type "Y" for the question above. You should be presented with a screen showing the various codes, with the cursor on the start of the first one (the printer codes on the screen are the default Epson ones).

The first one, Initialise, is mostly used for one-off printer functions (for instance, if you want to print a document in compressed mode), so hit <RETURN> for this, for now. Work through the list of codes, typing in the new codes for your printer.

Codes can be expressed in three ways:

- as numbers (ASCII codes - these are the same as used by CHR\$ in Basic)
- as strings in quotes, eg. "J3"
- using ESC to represent CHR\$(27) (this code is very often used to start a code sequence)

These types of codes can (and usually will) be combined on the same line. They should be separated by commas. Look at the Epson codes on the screen for an idea of how the codes should be input.

Once you have finished each line, hit <RETURN> to go on to the next line. Note that although the word processor uses the same character to turn an attribute on and off, printers generally have different codes for each. When you get to the bottom, you will be asked, "SAVE CODES (Y/N)". Hit "Y" - you won't want to go through this every time you use the WP. The computer will prompt you to insert the program disk. Once the codes are saved, they will be loaded automatically whenever you use the word processor.

Using the "Initialise" code

Often you will want to print a document in compressed character mode, or NLQ mode. Many printers rely on control codes to engage these options, and it can be a real hassle to go back into Basic to output the necessary control sequence. The "Initialise" space allows you to send these codes without leaving WP. The Initialise code is sent to the printer at the start of printing, so it can be used for tasks such as those mentioned above.

To use the Initialise space, type "Y" as before, then enter the code. Hit return to skip over the other codes. You would not normally want to save this code, so hit "N" at the next question (although there is nothing to stop you saving it if you want, for example if you always print things out in NLQ mode).

Disk Menu

This contains six options:

Disk Directory

This command is used to obtain a list of the files on a disk. If the list takes up more than one screen, the computer will prompt you to hit <RETURN> before continuing the listing.

Load File

This command loads a program off disk. It will prompt you for a filename (which must be no more than eight characters, as with all disk files. It will load anything with a W: file type, including files from other word processor programs.

Save File

This command saves a file for later retrieval with Load.

Erase File

This erases a file from the disk.

Rename File

This allows you to rename a file. You will be prompted for two filenames, the old and new names.

Bytes Free

This command tells you how much space remains on a disk.

Printer control codes

The program allows the use of five different printer font attributes: underline, emphasised (bold), italics, subscript and superscript. These are controlled by special characters in the text, generated using the <CTRL> key and represented onscreen with colored blocks:

| Function | Keys | Onscreen |
|--------------|--------|-------------|
| Underline | CTRL-U | █ (green) |
| Emphasised | CTRL-E | █ (orange) |
| Italics | CTRL-Y | █ (magenta) |
| Double-width | CTRL-V | █ (blue) |
| Subscript | CTRL-G | █ (white) |
| Superscript | CTRL-H | █ (white) |

Control codes are turned off using the same code used to turn them on, for example

italics[].

Control codes can occur anywhere in a line, and only affect the part of the line between them. Also, a character can have more than one attribute. For example

NORMAL []BOLD[] BOLD&UNDERLINE[][][] NORMAL []SUPERSCRIPT[]

will come out on the printer as:

normal bold bold&underline normal ^{supercript}

Centering and Right margin alignment

These are two other control codes, which work slightly differently to those above. Firstly, they are interpreted within the program, so no printer codes need to be defined. Also, they affect only one line, and don't need to be turned off again.

Centering is engaged by typing CTRL-C (represented onscreen by an inverse "+"), and causes the rest of the line to be centered in the middle of the page. CTRL-O (represented by an inverse ">") moves the rest of the line to the extreme right of the page. These two commands can be combined in the one line, for example:

LEFT[CENTRE]RIGHT

will come out on the printer as

left centre right
